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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Case CM-2054

In the Matter of :
US National Phase Entry :
Under 35 USC 371 from :
International Application of :
Ingram et al., :
Int'l Application No. PCT/US00/05292 : Group Art Unit : N/A
Filed on February 29, 2000 : Examiner : N/A

For Production Process for Detergent Tablet :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Before computing the fees for entering the captioned International Application into the US National Phase, please enter the following amendments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete current claims 1-10 and replace with the new claims 11-19 below.

11. A process for making a detergent table, the process comprising the steps of: first providing a detergent composition, second, forming a particulate material comprising the detergent composition and third, compressing the particulate material in a tablet form, the process further comprising the step of cooling the detergent composition below ambient temperature between the first and the third steps.

12. A process according to claim 11, wherein the ambient temperature is greater than 18°C.

13. A process according to claim 11, wherein the step of cooling the detergent composition consists of exposing the detergent composition to a temperature below ambient temperature in a portion of space.

14. A process according to claim 13, wherein the exposure is achieved by placing or displacing the detergent composition in or through the portion of space in which the temperature is below ambient and at least 3°C.

15. A process according to claim 11, wherein the difference between the ambient temperature and the temperature below ambient is at least 3°C.

16. A process according to claim 14, wherein the time of exposure is proportional to the weight of the detergent composition exposed divided by the difference in temperature.

17. A process according to claim 11, wherein the detergent composition comprises at least 10% by weight of surfactant.

18. A process according to claim 11, wherein the detergent composition comprises at least 2% by weight of binder.

19. A process according to claim 11, wherein the detergent composition has a temperature below ambient temperature after the cooling step and before the third step.

Conclusion

Support for these amendments is found in the claims as originally filed. These amendments are entered to bring the claims into conformance with 37 CFR §1.75; no new matter is added.

Respectfully submitted,

By M. Dressman
Marianne Dressman
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 42,498
(513) 627-4132

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